

Figure 6.3 Developmental Descriptors of Writing

Student _____ Date _____	
Stage/Characteristics	Teacher Comments
Stage 1: Pre-Emergent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scribbles or draws to communicate • Shows interest in letters and words 	<hr/> <hr/>
Stage 2: Emergent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May recognize/name letters or simple words • Uses letter forms to label drawings • Sometimes writes with left-to-right progression • Sometimes writes with sound/symbol relationships • May be able to explain writing 	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Stage 3: Dependent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses inventive spelling with beginning and ending sounds • Uses print from the environment • Uses simple vocabulary • Sometimes leaves spaces between words • Develops a sense of story. • Writer may forget meaning after time • Meaning sometimes evident to reader 	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Stage 4: Developing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begins to use vowels in inventive spelling • Begins to write simple sentences • Uses elaborations from personal experience • Can read back to an audience • Rereads to check meaning 	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Stage 5: Independent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matches oral language to writing • Writes for variety of purposes • Begins to use an organizing plan when writing • Makes corrections while writing • Develops authorship and voice 	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

Adapted from Misencik, Briggs, and the DMES Alternative Assessment Committee (1993).

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Figure 6.3 **Developmental Descriptors of Writing** (continued)

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